

JOINT
PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1949 Industrial Road, Room 140
Conway, South Carolina 29526
and the
S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N # 1987-08703-3H

AUGUST 28, 2013

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et.seq.) an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
CIVIL ENGINEERING UNIT
15608 SW 117TH AVENUE
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33177

for a permit to dredge within

WINYAH BAY/PEE DEE RIVER

at a location south of U.S. Highway 17 bridge on an existing Coast Guard station located on Marina Drive, in Georgetown, Georgetown County, South Carolina (Latitude: 33.362535°N; -79.268591°W)

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by the **Corps** until

15 Days from the Date of this Notice,

and **SCDHEC** will receive written statements regarding the proposed work until

30 Days from the Date of this Notice

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed work consists of maintenance dredging within the Pee Dee River. In detail, the work consists of dredging approximately 11,000 cubic yards of material from two (2) acres of the Pee Dee River to a depth of -10' below mean low water (MLW) with an allowable overdepth of -1' below MLW. The proposed dredging will occur around the existing Coast Guard pier. Dredging will be performed by hydraulic cutterhead dredge with the dredged material piped to and disposed of in an existing upland confined disposal basin (Waccamaw Point disposal area). The applicant stated that measures taken to avoid and minimize impacts to the aquatic resources consist of the

following: limiting the scope of dredging to primarily within previously vessel transited boundaries; dredged material will be disposed of utilizing a hydraulic pipeline to an existing upland disposal basin; and sediment testing will be conducted. The applicant offered no compensatory mitigation for the impacts associated with the proposed work. The purpose of the proposed project as stated by the applicant is to provide clear berthing areas alongside the Coast Guard Georgetown pier which provides mooring and water access for Coast Guard vessels supporting the USCG mission of national maritime security and safety.

The District Engineer has concluded that the discharges associated with this project, both direct and indirect, should be reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in accordance with provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As such, this notice constitutes a request, on behalf of the applicant, for certification that this project will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The work shown on this application must also be certified as consistent with applicable provisions the Coastal Zone Management Program (15 CFR 930). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are received. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project would impact (2.0) acres of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project is not likely to adversely affect any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed endangered or threatened species or designated or proposed critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), this public notice also constitutes a request to Indian Tribes to notify the District Engineer of any historic properties of religious and cultural significance to them that may be affected by the proposed undertaking.

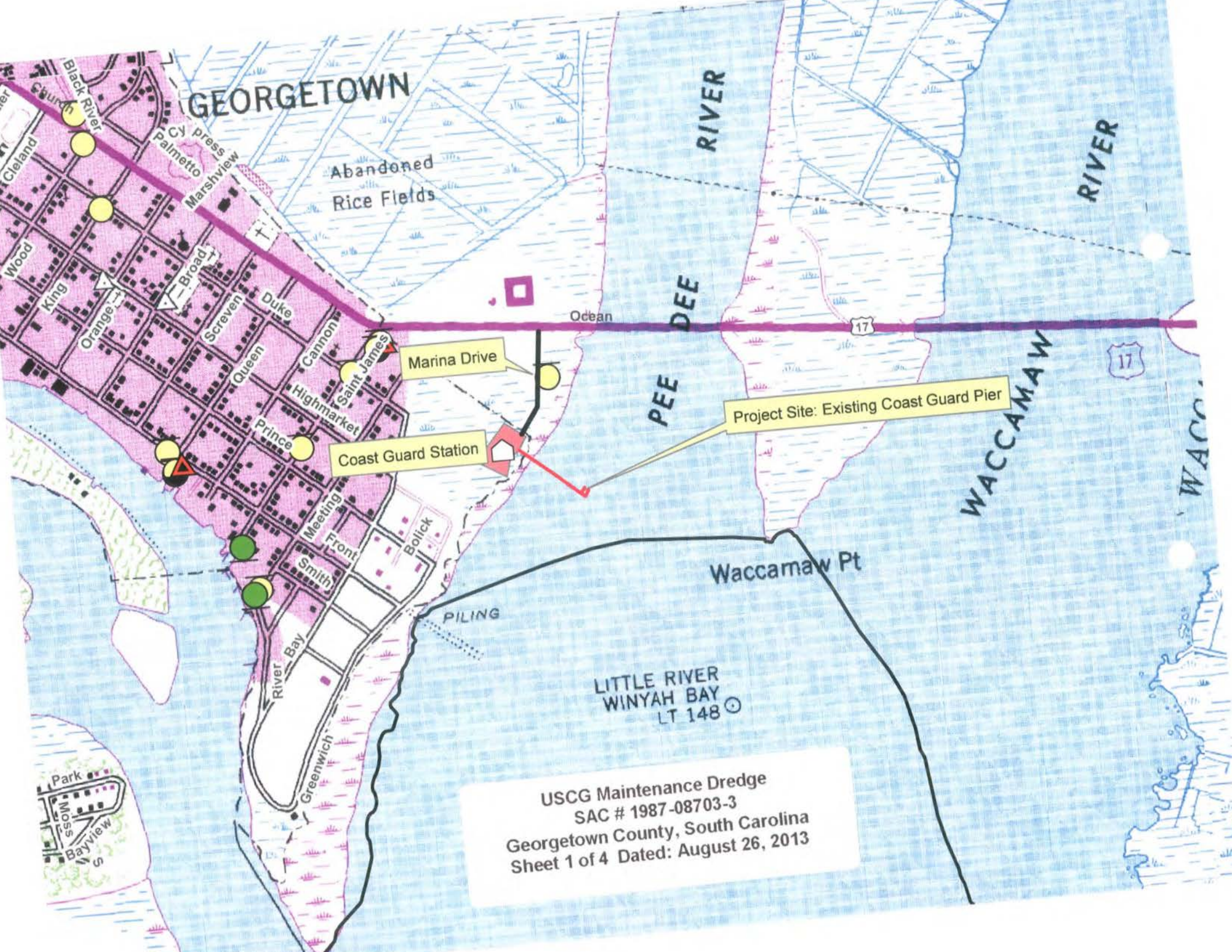
In accordance with the NHPA, the District Engineer has also consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. To insure that other cultural resources that the District Engineer is not aware of are not overlooked, this public notice also serves as a request to the State Historic Preservation Office to provide any information it may have with regard to historic and cultural resources.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest and will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act and, as appropriate, the criteria established under authority of Section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Rob Huff at 843-365-4239.



GEORGETOWN

Abandoned Rice Fields

PEE DEE RIVER

RIVER

PEE DEE RIVER

WACCAMAW RIVER

WACCAMAW RIVER

Ocean

17

17

Marina Drive

Project Site: Existing Coast Guard Pier

Coast Guard Station

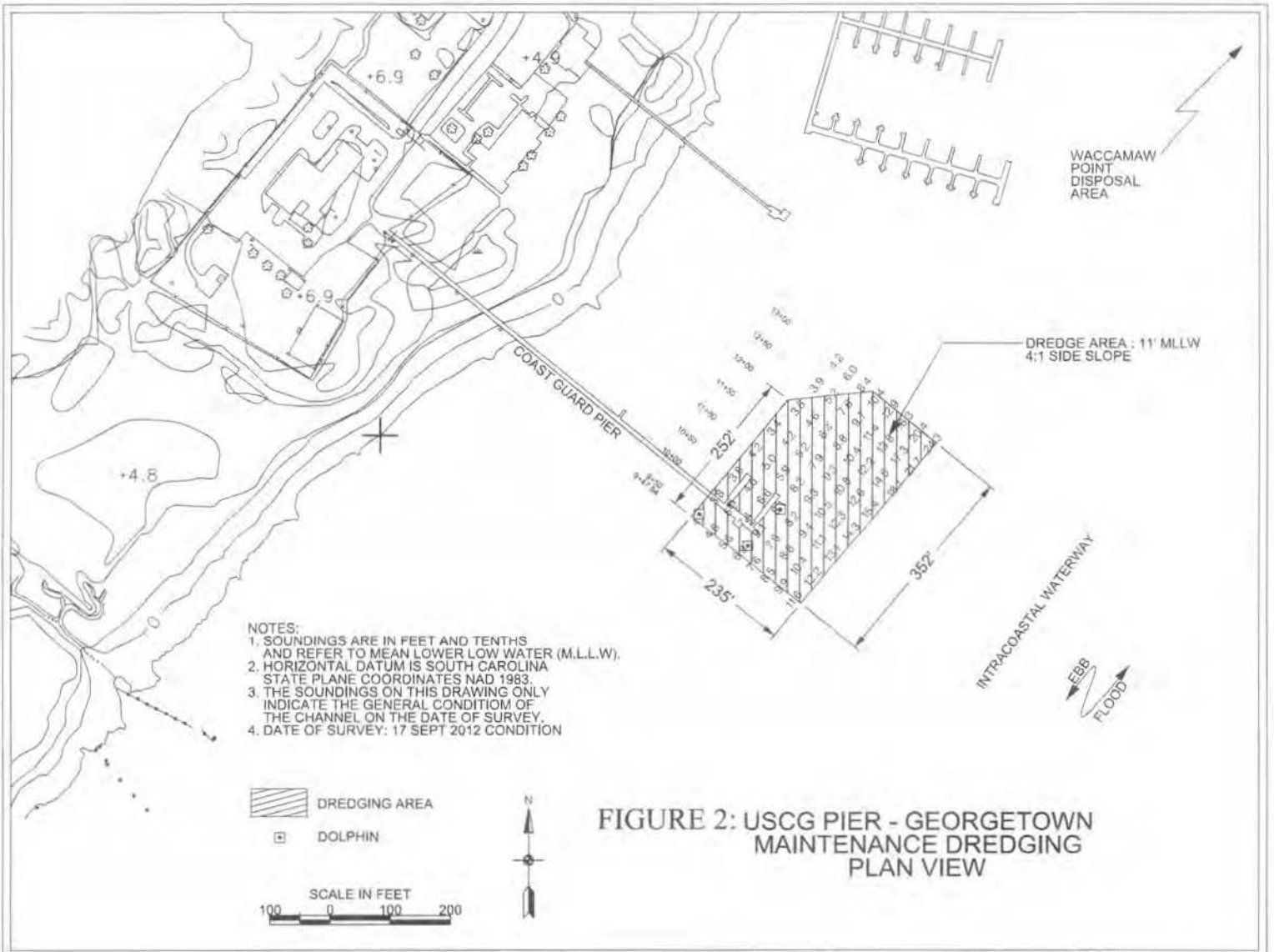
Waccamaw Pt

LITTLE RIVER WINYAH BAY LT 148

PILING

USCG Maintenance Dredge
SAC # 1987-08703-3
Georgetown County, South Carolina
Sheet 1 of 4 Dated: August 26, 2013

Park
Moss Bayview



USCG Maintenance Dredge
 SAC # 1987-08703-3
 Georgetown County, South Carolina
 Sheet 2 of 4 Dated: August 26, 2013

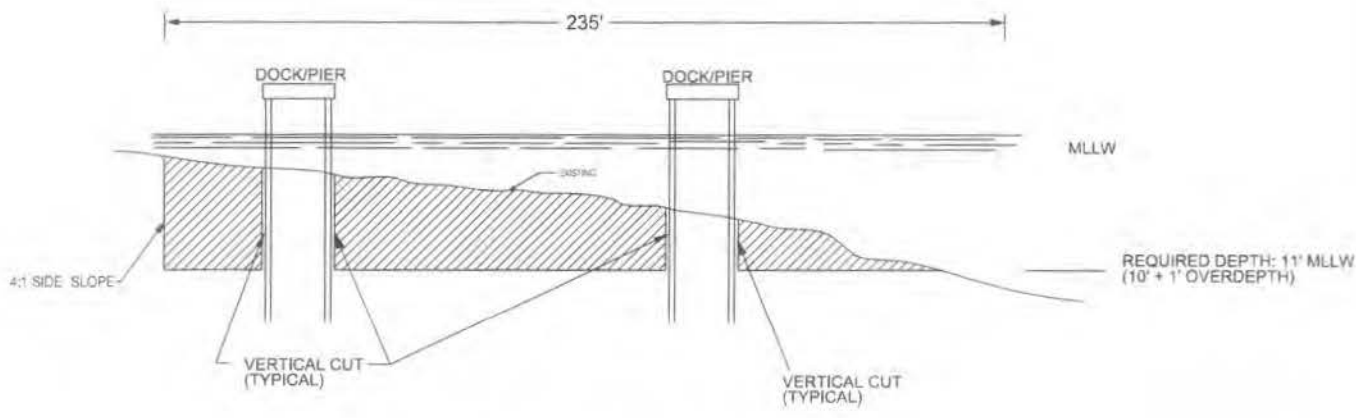
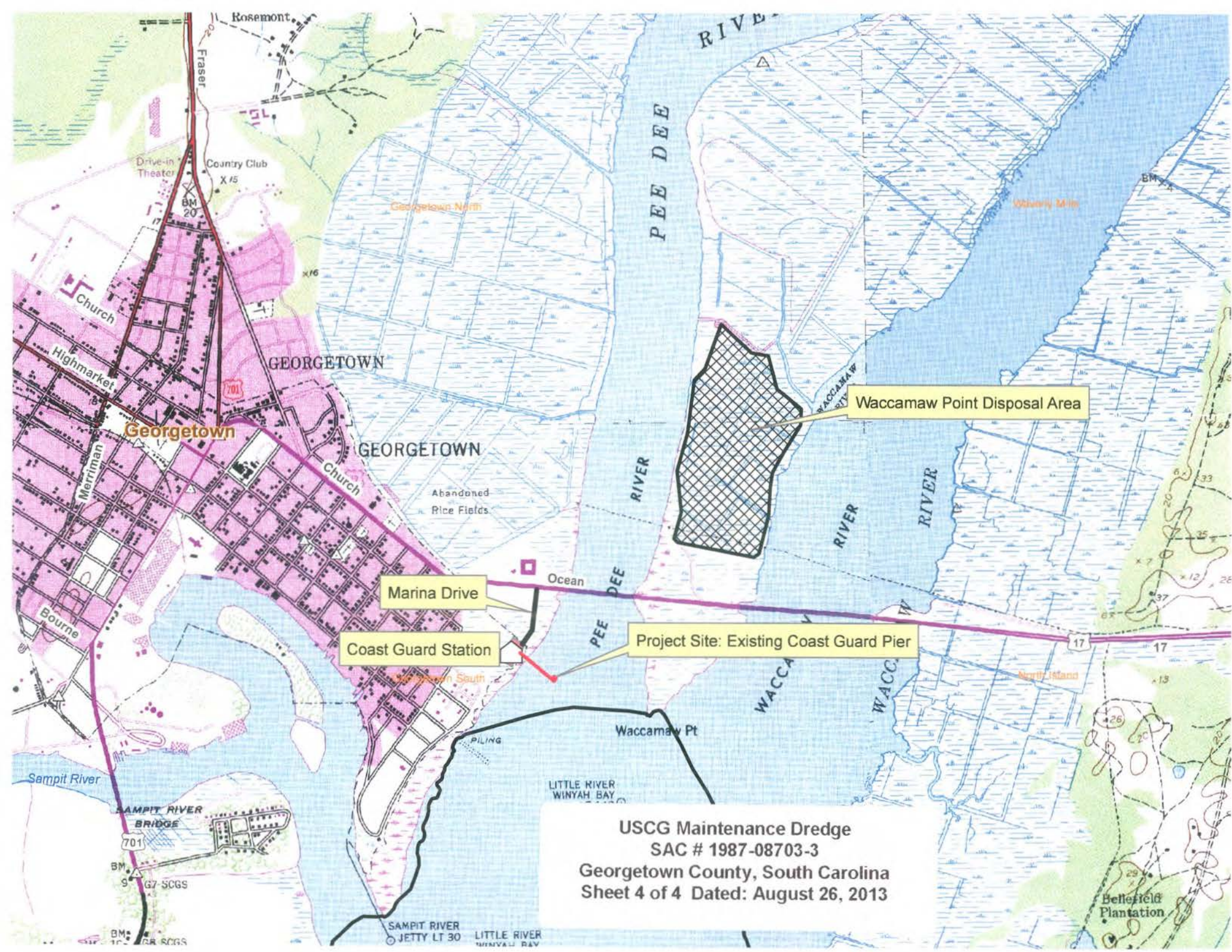


FIGURE 3: PIER DREDGING CROSS-SECTION
NOT TO SCALE

DREDGING PRISM 

USCG Maintenance Dredge
SAC # 1987-08703-3
Georgetown County, South Carolina
Sheet 3 of 4 Dated: August 26, 2013



Waccamaw Point Disposal Area

Marina Drive

Coast Guard Station

Project Site: Existing Coast Guard Pier

**USCG Maintenance Dredge
SAC # 1987-08703-3
Georgetown County, South Carolina
Sheet 4 of 4 Dated: August 26, 2013**